TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

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BIBLE VERSE TO STUDY

"Now this is eternal life: That they may know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ." —John 17:3

DOCTOR SUPPLY INCREASING

Since the end of World War II, some communities have suffered from a shortage of doctors. There are signs that this problem is now being solved.

Last year, almost 7,000 physicians were graduated from the medical schools of the United States — a new record — and latest figures show that the physician ratio is now one to something over 700 people.

Of course, this figure is somewhat misleading as so many of today's doctors are specialists. Therefore, there is not one practicing physician, in the general sense, for every 700-plus people in this country. That figure would probably run well over 1,000, and possibly more than 1,500, per doctor.

There are other signs that the situation will improve in the future. Enrollment in medical schools last year was at an all-time high, and there are also a number of new medical schools being established. Ten are either started or being planned.

The University of California at Los Angeles graduates its first class this year and the University of Miami, in Florida, will graduate its first class next year. Six other medical schools will graduate their first classes in 1960.

These statistics seem to show that the supply of doctors is increasing faster than the population. This is encouraging, especially in those communities where there is not adequate medical service.

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ANOTHER DECLINE FOR THE FARMER

The Department of Agriculture reported, at the end of July, that farm prices had declined another two per cent during the month ending in mid-July. The general level of prices received by farmers averaged 84 per cent of parity, according to the Department's computation.

Parity is a price figure set by a Government formula, supposed to represent a fair return to the farmers. It is interesting to note that farm prices were 88 per cent of parity a year ago.

Thus, farm prices have declined two per cent from 1954 until June and another two per cent from June to mid-July. This indicates that the decline in farm prices is speeding up, not slowing down.

We have mentioned many times in these columns that President Eisenhow's administration faces its most serious domestic problem in the field of farming operations. Farm prices have dropped, prices paid by farmers have increased, and the farmer's net income has ,therefore,, suffered considerably.

There is some consolation in the fact that this year is a bumper year for many crops but, if the trend is not reversed by the time the second session of the 84th Congress convenes, we believe Congress will handle the Administration's farm program rather roughly.

Next year is an election year and if Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson does not reverse the three-year trend downward, Congress will probably reverse it, in spite of Benson and even the President himself—if Mr. Eisenhower attempts to maintain the present program.

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Don't complain about the hot days. This is what you longed for back in February.

EARTH SATELLITES COMING

The over-dramatic announcement from the White House, that this country would launch earth-circling satellites into space between 1957 and 1958 marks a significant milestone in man's progress. The satellites would be made of aluminum, slightly larger than a basketball, and would carry very little in the way of equipment, measuring data or other useful devices.

Beyond the confidence of U. S. scientists, that they can launch into outer space in the next few years, the announcement really means little. It is quite possible that other countries might beat the United States to such launchings, and unquestionably scientists of other nations could plot the course of the U. S.-launched satellite and learn as much from its course as do American scientists.

The White House announcement was over-dramatic, since the launching of small satellites of this kind has been expected for many years. The United States announcement, with all the fanfare and the scientists gathered at the White House, will look silly if the Soviet Union launches a satellite into outer space before we do, prior to the 1957-1958 period.

This is a distinct possibility. It has been evident for some time that the United States and the Soviet Union are in a race to successfully complete the first inter-planetary flight. Why this country must announce its expected achievements, two or three years hence, is a good question. Our scientists and our armed services are about the only ones in the world who announce the great achievements they plan to accomplish in the future—before they are accomplished.

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BEATING THE HEAT

In these hot days, all of us find some discomfort from the weather but few of us realize the actual process occuring in the body, as it tries to keep cool. Authorities have establihsed that if the body temperature ever reaches 106 degrees Fahrenheit, serious injury is likely to occur.

To prevent this, the body's cooling system works three ways. First, heat is dissipated by radiation. Second, the body loses heat by convection. Thirdly, evaporation of sweat provides a loss of heat.

Cooling by radiation is simply a radiation of heat from the body to objects around it. If, however, the objects around us are warmer than we are, ye cannot lose any of our heat to these objects.

Loss of heat by convection is a similar process. We lose heat to air which is cooler than the body. However, if this air is warmer than the body, it is obvious that the body cannot lose heat by convection in the surrounding air. Thus, one sometimes encounters a situation where heat cannot be dissipated by either radiation or convection.

The evaporation in sweat, or perspiration, is then the only method that works. Physical exercise, taken at this time, greatly increases the difficulty of dissipating the body's heat and, in some cases, physical exercise under these conditions should not be attempted.

There is one remedy which can help, even if heat cannot be lost by radiation or convection, and physical exercise must be carried on. That is, to sponge the body with cool water. The water on the body is cool and therefore allows the body to dissipate some of its heat into the water. The water also joins in the evaporation process.

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There are still some people who won't use advertising to sell goods; the fact that all highly successful big businesses have used it well fails to make a dent.

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Perosnally, we think the glad-hand, high-powered, buddy approach is overdone.

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Have you ever noticed that the good things in life are most often the inexpensive things.

WASHINGTON NOTES

FARM PRICES

Farm prices dropped two per cent during the month ended in mid-July, according to the Agriculture Department. This decline largely reflected lower prices for hogs, potatoes, apples, wheat and watermelons. Prices for a few commodities went up, including milk, tomatoes, grapefruit, cotton, lettuce and eggs. The Department said the general level of prices received by farmers averaged 84 per cent of parity, compared with 86 per cent in mid-June, 88 per cent a year ago and a record high of 123 per cent in October, 1946.

MANUFACTURERS' SALES

Manufacturers' sales in June reached $27,400,000,000, a gain of two per cent over May and almost $4,000,000,000 higher than in June, 1954.

FOREIGN AID

Congress recently completed action on a compromise $2,703,341,705 foreign aid bill, which was about $560,000,000 short of the amount the Administration had asked to carry the aid program through the 1956 fiscal year. However, because the Pentagon was able to "find" $302,000,000 in funds appropriated but unobligated, that had been "lost" in official bookkeeping, it will be possible to recapture most of the $402,000,000 cut the House had made in direct military assistance.

POLIO

The Public Health Service, on July 28th, reported a seasonal increase in poliomyelitis cases throughout the nation. It noted, however, nearly 2,200 fewer cases so far this year as against the same period of 1954. The total since January is 5,495, as against 7,086 for the same period of 1954.

JOBLESS CLAIMS

Initial claims filed by workers under state unemployment insurance laws decreased by 12,900 to 217,-400 during the last week of July. State insured unemployment increased by 19,600 to 1,139,000 during the week ended July 16.

SAVINGS

Deposits in the nation's 527 mutual savings banks increased [illegible] 000,000 during the first six [illegible] of this year. This was a 7 per [illegible] decrease from the gain of $1,[illegible] 000,000 in the like half of 1954 [illegible] decrease reflects withdrawals [illegible] per cent during the first six [illegible] of this year.

COTTON STOCKS

The Agriculture Department [illegible] nounced that its minimum [illegible] price of Government-owned [illegible] cotton will be reduced by the [illegible] alent of half-cent a pound, [illegible] August 1st. The reduction will [illegible] in both domestic and export [illegible] kets.

HELIUM PLANT

The United States Bureau [illegible] Mines has announced that it [illegible] build a $6,000,000-helium plant [illegible] Excell in the Texas Panhandle, [illegible] Amarillo. The new plant will [illegible] a capacity of 100,000,000 cubic [illegible] of helium annually, augmenting [illegible] present plant there, which produ[illegible] 85,000,000 cubic feet per year.

HYDROGEN BOMBS

In its eighteenh semi-annual [illegible] port, the Atomic Energy Com[illegible] sion has disclosed that hydro[illegible] weapons, of several types, have [illegible] produced for the United S[illegible] atomic arsenal in the first six mo[illegible] of this year. The design of the [illegible] weapons was based on the results [illegible] the spectacular hydrogen bomb [illegible] in the Pacific in 1954.

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

"Light" Snack For Ducks

Coming back from Balesville the other night I noticed a powerful light at Whitey Fisher's Duck Farm. Seemed to be shining out over the water.

I stopped to ask Whitey what went on. He took me down to his pond and pointed out a 200-watt bulb—rigged up on a pole about three feet above the surface. The light was attracting thousands of insects for the ducks to eat.

Seemed kind of odd to me—but Whitey was enthusiastic. "Best idea I ever heard of," he claims. "Keeps the feed bill down—and the bug population, too. Why do you suppose I never thought of it before?"

From where I sit, Whitey's the type who's always ready to pioneer a worth-while new trick. Me, I stick to old methods. Just a case of personal feeling, I guess . . . like the way you may prefer coffee with meals while I always prefer a traditional glass of beer. Not that I'd claim you're *wrong*—respect for the other man's opinion is my "guiding light."

Joe Marsh

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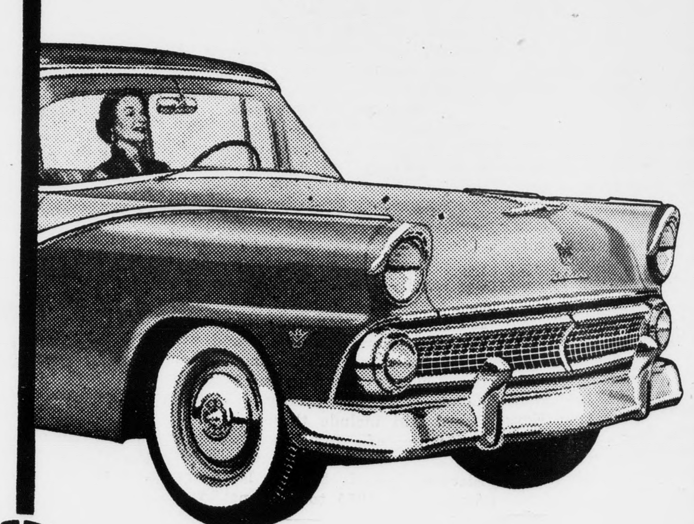

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Civic Enterprise . . like *Free Enterprise* . . is important business 52 weeks in the year. Community progress comes only after constant effort. Business men and the public must work together as a team to see that their home community prospers.

PREACHERS do not just preach one sermon a year. Everyone is against sin, but the church must keep in there fighting sin every day, every week.

TRAFFIC OFFICERS must keep at the job of promoting safety. Everyone knows that it is important to drive carefully, but that does not means that the traffic patrols can let down. The highways must be made safe by constant effort, every hour, to save lives and property.

TEACHERS have to do more than just tell a pupil *once* and depend upon that one telling to last forever. The lessons must be repeated, emphasized and reviewed. Constant drilling and study make true the old saying, "There is no royal road" to an education.

STREET LIGHTS must go on every night. Traffic signs can't be up today and down tomorrow. Things like Electric Power, Water Pressure, Fire Protection, Mail Service, Train Schedules . . all these and many more . . must be at your beck and call *all* the time. No community could stand it in this modern age, if electric power was on only every other hour! Our modern *Enterprise System* demands that certain things be available ALL the time.

All these statements add up to one big fact: A growing Town must be ever and eternally promoting Civic Enterprise . . reminding the public of what it has to offer, and inviting business. A live town can pull itself up by its own bootstraps if it keeps working, improving and trying to merit the patronage of those in its trade area.

That's why we bring you these messages. Appomattox *wants* your business. We want you to feel "at home" in Appomattox, and every business place listed on this page is ready, day after day, week after week, month after month, to render you the service in which it specializes. Look over this list. You will find the type of service you need. We are your neighbors, working together to promote civic enterprise in "a growing town." Next Time, Every Time *Try Appomattox First!*

We know of a famous cathedral which has stood for six centuries . . but they still ring the bell every day to remind people that it is still there! So, we remind our farmer friends, newcomers to our community, and our old customers, too, we remind one and all, that we stand ready to serve you and want your business!

What To See At Old Appomattox Court House —

McLean House. In the parlor of the home of Wilmer McLean, now restored, Gens. Robert E. Lee and Ulysis S. Grant signed the Peace ending the Civil War, April 9, 1865.

National Park Service Museum. Located in the restored Hix Tavern. Contains original flag of truce and many historical relics. Also the famous Guillaume oil painting of Surrender Scene.

Old County Jail. Original brick jail still standing in old court house circle.

Restored Meeks-Plunkett House, Peers House, and other historic buildings.

Site of the "Apple Tree." Where Lee rested awaiting meeting with Grant.

Original Tree under which Lee stood to bid farewell to the Army of Northern Virginia.

Gravesite of the famous minstrel, Joe Sweeney, just beyond Memorial Bridge over Appomattox River.

Confederate Cemetary, site of Lee's headquarters, North Carolina Monument and other historic spots.

- - Appomattox Welcomes You - -

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